RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday the 22nd July, 1992/31st Asadha 1914 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, **The Deputy Chairman** in the Chair.

OBITUARY REFERENCE

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon'ble Members, I refer with profound sorrow to the sudden passing away of Shri Manmath Nath Misra, a former Member of the Rajya Sabha, under tragic circumstances. As per Press reports, he was killed in a car accident near Balasore on the 21st July 1992.

Shri Manmath Nath Misra was born in 1930 at village Baradihi in the district, Maurbhaj, of Orissa and had his education at Cuttack and Balasore. A lawyer by vocation, Shri Misra was ocnnected with welfare activities to secure justice for the weaker sections of the society. He was also associated with the Co-operative Marketing Society and the Indian Red Cross Society.

Shri Misra was a Member of this House from April, 1962 to April, 1968. During his membership, he took active part in the proceedings.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Shri Manmath Nath Misra.

I request Members to rise in their places and observe silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

(Hon. Members then stood in silence for one minute.)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Secretary-General will convey to the members of the bereaved family our sense of profound sorrow and deep sympathy.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Establishment of BDS wing in Jammu Medical College

*201. SHRI SHABBIR AHMAD SALARIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are two Medical Colleges in J and K;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Medical College at Srinagar has a wing for B.D.S. students and no such wing is available in the Medical College at Jammu;

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to establish a B.D.S. wing in the Medical College at Jammu; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARADEVI SIDDHARATHA): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

There are two Government Medical Colleges one each at Srinagar and Jammu. There is an independent Dental College in Srinagar. Government Medical College, Jammu has however a separate Department of Dentistry. The State Government has reported that they have no proposal to establish a Dental Wing at the Medical College in Jammu.

SHRI SHABBIR AHMAD SALARIA: Madam, the question is that there is no medical college in the Jammu region of the State of Jammu and Kashmir. It is admitted in the reply that there is one medical college and there is one dental college in Srinagar. What is the total number of seats in that Dental College at Srinagar, what is the number of students presently undergoing education therein, when did that Dental College come into being and how many students have qualified therefrom?

Then, is it true—this is my first supplemantary—that the Jammu and Kashmir boys have to seek admission outside Jammu and Kashmir because of lack of such a college in the Jammu region and pay lakhs of rupees as capitation fees?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): Madam, perhaps it is due to cheer inadvertence that the hoonurable Member had said that there is no medical college in Jammu. Perhaps he means to say that there is no dental college in Jammu. There are two medical colleges in the State of Jammu and Kashmir—one in Srinagar and the other in Jammu. I agree with the honourable Member that there is no dental college in the Jammu region. There is a dental college in Srinagar and the number of admissions as approved or cleared by the Dental Council of India is 20 in the Srinagar Dental College.

According to the reports that come to me from the State Government, not more than ten students have sought admission in the Srinagar Dental College so far. So far as the second question as to whether we are proposing to have any dental college in Jammu is concerned, we have received a report from the State Government that they do not intend doing it at present.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You put your second supplementary.

SHRI SHABBIR AHMAD SALARIA: The question is not that the State Government has no proposal. All decision are based on sound reasoning. The question is that there is no dental clinic in the hospitals at tehsil level in Jammu and Kashmir.

And at the district level, you have no dental clinic in many district hospitals including Pulwama, Leh, Kupwara and Poonch. And what is the international standard laid down by the experts as to for how much population, there should be one dental surgeon? Keeping that in view and the fact that the Jammu province has its population almost equal to the Kashmir province, why should there not be a proposal to have a Dental College in Jammu also? And my first supplementary is that people are seeking admission outside, paying lakhs of rupees as capitation fee for the reason that seats are not available in the Jammu province. And ten seats were sought. It may be that because of the ongoing conditions in the Kashmir province that ten seats to which the hon. Minister has referred may have been sought this year. And the number of seats which are available there being 20, what is the number of dental doctors who have qualified so far? It is not answered. What I say is this. No doubt he says that there is no proposal. But why is it that...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is no point in repeating. I followed. The Minister also must have followed. Many other people want to ask. Yes, Mr. Minister.

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: I can tell the hon. Member that the people in the Valley of Kashmir are more medical-minded that in the Jammu province. As far as the report that has come to me is concerned, that indicates that there are about 150 dental surgeons in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. I am also informed by the State Government that almost every block has got one dental surgeon. And whether these hospitals or the other things are functioning in the Valley, perhaps the hon. Member is fully aware and I need not repeat those things here. So far as the State is concerned, the very fact that we have sanctioned 20 seats for the Srinagar Dental College and only ten people have sought the admission, indicates that the students are not interested to go for B.D.S. training either in Srinagar or outside. I am also aware that the students from Jammu and Kashmir are trying to seek admission either in the MBBS or the BDS alternatively. There is no doubt about it. But it is for the State Government to consider whether they should have a BDS college in Jammu or not. In case the hon. Member wants, I can refer it back to the State Government to consider it.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jagmohan.

SHRI SHABBIR AHMAD SALARIA: And he is the State Government today. He has to decide. There is no Government in Jammu and Kashmir. He is the State Government today.

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: The hon. Member has been the Advocate-General of the State of Jammu and Kashmir and, perhaps, he knows the constitutional position better as to who is the State Government.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jagmohan.

SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state as to what is the proportion of funds that are allocated to the three regions—Jammu, Ladakh and Srinagar—under the sector of health and medical care? And is it not a fact that a very large amount is consumed by the Sher-e-Kashmir Medical Institute and there is a duplication of work in relation to this Institute as well as the medical college of Srinagar, and the funds could be saved and used for setting up a dental college in Jammu? And because of paucity of funds, is the Minister also aware, that the medical college in Jammu has taken more than 20 years to complete and it is still under the process of completion? What is he intending to do to redress this imbalance and to save funds which could be profitably used? And if I may say so, this information that pressure is not there on the dental college is not, in my opinion, correct because I was there, and a big agitation started that a dental college should be started. And at that time it was sanctioned by me because a very large number of people were wanting to have admission in the dental college. This figure of ten is due to the conditions prevailing now. But in 1986, there were more than 40 or 60 who were wanting to get admission.

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: I think when he was the super boss in the State of Jammu and Kashmir — I mean when the hon. Member himself was the Governor of the State of Jammu and Kashmir —at that time he had the authority under section 92 of the State Constitution. He had not to go to any Legislature or to Parliament. He could take this decision at that time. So far as the point that only ten students sought admission is concerned, this position has been there previously also. So far as the imbalance between the Sher-e-Kashmir Medical Institute and the Jammu Institute is concerned, I don't think here is any imbalance in Srinagar. This institute has its own historic importance. Jammu Medical College was started in 1973 and the Srinagar Medical College was started in 1959. I don't think there is any imbalance. And even if there is any imbalance, we do not propose to remove that imbalance because there is no imbalance within the State of Jammu and Kashmir. In Srinagar there is need for such an institution, as an institution of excellence which is in the name of Sher-e-Kashmir Medical Institute. Perhaps, the hon. Member may be thinking that students are not able to get training in the Srinagar Dental College and some of them have been shifted. If the hon. Member is very particular, I will try to accommodate them somewhere else in the country. I am referring to those who are at this time studying either in the Srinagar Dental College or have shifted to Jammu Dental College.

MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED: As the hon. Minister said, Sher-e-Kashmir Medical Institute is the premier medical institute of the country. I would like to know whether it is a fact that the Medical Council of India has given recognition to some of the postgraduate medical disciplines of the Institute after fulfilling all the formalities and whether it is a fact that the Medical Council of India has sent its recommendations to the Government of India but so far no notification has been issued in this regard and the students are suffering on this account.

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: Basically the question pertains to the dental college and not to the medical college. But I would like to tell the hon. Member from my memory, if I am right, that the Medical Council of India is an autonomous institution and it does not need any recommendation to tell them what to do

and what not to do. The university concerned or the medical institution concerned or the State Government concerned can approach the Medical Council of India for recognition at the appropriate time. So far as post-graduate students are concerned — and I am saying it from my memory; I may not be able to tell you the correct number — some students have been selected, and some students who had been selected are getting training in Sher-e-Kashmir Medical Institute for post-graduation. And this is the information that I had received earlier. But I will be confirming it later because this question does not pertain to the main question.

MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED: It is not a question of admission into the Sher-e-Kashmir Medical Institute where there is post-graduation. My question is that the Institute has approached the Medical Council of India for recognition. The Medical Council of India has given recognition to some of the post-graduate disciplines. I am told necessary recommendation has been sent to the Government of India for issuing notification.

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: I will certainly look into it. In case the Medical Council of India has taken a decision I will see that it is implemented. But I will also seek the support of the hon. Members to see that those students who are admitted into Sher-e-Kashmir Medical Institute, they are imparted training properly and they do not come under the threat of miiltants from any side.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Actually this question is not connected with the original question. But the Minister will get information and give it to the hon. Member.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Madam, I would like to ask the hon. Health Minister whether he is aware that there is a great imbalance in the setting up of medical colleges, not only in the case of Jammu and Kashmir, but in the case of other parts of the country also? This comes largely because of the system of comes largely because of the system of capitation fees. Certain States are encouraging medical colleges being set up on the basis of charging capitation fees, while others do not. Therefore, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government of India has any policy in this regard, a national policy? Medical profession is one profession which must go entirely on merit; it should not be bought. That is what exactly the capitation fee medical colleges are doing. Has the Government of India a policy? Does the Government of India have a policy, or, is it thinking of a policy in this regard?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This does not arise out of the original question.

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: Since the hon. Member has asked the question, I would not like to disappoint him. (*Interruptions*). I am aware of the fact that there is much commercialisation in the medical colleges and in medical treatment. There is no doubt about it. A policy in this regard is being processed.

So far as the opening of medical colleges under the Government is concerned, we do not have sufficient funds to open medical colleges under the Government in any part of the country. But we are in the process of formulating a policy where we will allow the private sector to enter, subject to certain conditions. For example, they will have to reserve 15 per cent of the seats to be filled on the basis of all-India merit. They will have to reserve 22.5 per cent for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The poor ,the meritorious and certain other categories will get first preference and the rest will go to those people who can afford.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: How soon is the policy going to be announced?

SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR: It is under process.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have other questions. He volunteered to give some good information. You can table another question and get more information. Question No. 202. (*Interruptions*).

DR. ABRAR AHMED: Question No. 202. (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I know everybody wants to ask a supplementary. But let us first hear the hon. Minister's answer. (*Interruptions*).

Commercial exploitation and encroachment of Railway land

*202. DR. ABRAR AHMED:†
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been an alarming rise in the cases of commercial exploitation and encroachment of railway land at major stations;

(b) if so, what are the details in this connection; and

(c) the remedial measures adopted by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Action to remove encroachments is taken under the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act 1971 on a continuous basis. Railways have also taken up several preventive measures such as construction of boundary walls and fencing at vulnerable locations, plantation of juliflora and such throny buses along the land boundary, massive afforestation on railway land, driving out trespassers, etc.

डा. अबरार अहमद : : मैडम, मंत्री महोदय ने इस सवाल का ए, बी और सी पार्ट में उत्तर दिया है जो अपने आप में ही कंट्राडिक्टरी है । ए पार्ट में उन्होंने लिखा है नो, सर जबकि मैंने यह पूछा था कि क्या रेलवे की जमीन पर नाजायज इनक्रोचमेंट में वृद्धि हुई है ? पार्ट बी में यह लिखा है कि हज नाट अराइज़। इसमें मैंने ब्यौरा मांगा था। पार्ट सी में आप कहते हैं कि

"Action to remove encroachments is taken under the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971, on a continuous basis."

जब पार्ट ए और बी में नो तथा डज नाट अराइज़ कहते हैं तो पार्ट सी में जो आपने कहा है मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि आप इविक्शन किस का करते हैं ? यह मैं नहीं समझ पाया हूं । लेकिन आपने जो सी पार्ट का उत्तर दिया है, मैं उसके आधार पर ही अपना सप्लीमेंटरी पूछता हूं । मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि इस समय क्या उन्होंने कोई सर्वे कराया है कि रेलवे की कितनी भूमि बेकार पड़ी है तथा उसमें से कितनी भूमि पर नाजायज कब्जे हैं ? क्या उस भूमि के किसी हिस्से पर उद्योगपतियों के गोदाम या उनकी सम्पत्ति रेलवे की भूमि पर है ? क्या झुग्गी माफिया भी रेलवे की तरफ बढ़ रहे हैं और बेकार पड़ी हुई रेलवे की भूमि पर झुग्गियां भी पड़ी हुई हैं । क्या दिल्ली में भी . . . (**व्यवधान**)

श्री हेच. हनुमनतप्पा : झुग्गी माफिया नहीं कहिये । माफिया अलग है, झुग्गी अलग है (**व्यवधान**)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let the Minister answer. Let the Minister correct.

डा. अबरार अहमद : मंत्री जी, मैं अभी पूछ रहा हूं । मेरा सवाल पूरा नहीं हुआ ।

उपसभापति : इतना लम्बा सवाल पूछेंगे तो जवाब नहीं देने दंगी । छोटा सवाल पूछिये ताकि जवाब बड़ा आए ।

डा. अबरार अहमद : माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि झुग्गी माफिया और झुग्गी को अलग करिये । तो यह वे भी जानते हैं और आप भी जानती हैं कि जो ट्रेंड आज झुग्गी पड़वाने वाला चल पड़ा है . . .

उपसभापति : मैं नहीं जानती हूं ।

†The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Dr. Abrar Ahmed.